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A REVIEW

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OF MANY SUBJECTS OF AND CONCERNING

THE HULLS.

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Edgar Hull
Mar. 1. 1905

I send you the within gleaned from books, pamphlets, letters and records with the wish that it will afford you as much pleasure to read it as it has given me to write it. My ancestor Cornelius Hull was house-keeping in Great Barrington in 1764 and died there about 1820. He married Thankful Root who was born Jan. 20, 1746, and died there about 1828. Their children were Daniel, Pomroy, Stephen and Josiah, Rhoda, Sarah, Mercy and Speedy. I have a complete record of the descendants of Josiah who was born April 27, 1774.

Will you tell me what you know concerning Cornelius Hull and his descendants?

Fort Edward, N. Y.,

EDGAR HULL.

December 10, 1904.

WILLIAM C. HULL

NEW YORK

1905

A REVIEW

OF MANY SUBJECTS OF AND CONCERNING

THE HULLS.

It is claimed in divers books and pamphlets that people who spell their name Hull are derived from the same stock as those who spell their names Hill and Hall, etc. In proof of it old records are cited, showing the spelling of names as de la Hille, de la Hall, de Hill, and de Hall and de Halle, and Hall and Hill and de Hulle, and de la Hulle, Hulle and Hull. Also the fact is cited that the three talbots appear on the coat of arms of each thus proving that all came from the same stock.

It is also claimed that

“The Saxon word “atte” is the equivalent of the Norman word “de” or “de la” and the surname Hill, Helle, Hulle or Hulls means a hill or hills. Atte Hull therefore means of the Hills or from the Hills.”

On the other hand while the definitions are conceded yet the claim is made that Hull, Hill and Hall are and always have been separate and distinct families.

The river Hull had been named Hull a long time prior to 1298 when King Edward I, bestowed the name of Kingston upon Hull upon two villages which then united and formed one town. That locality and the river had been called Hull for many years previously. There were no hills in that section of the country, it being level as a prairie. When the Saxon “atte” Hulle and the French de la Hulle were written

both meaning "of the" it is more reasonable to infer that both referred to the people who were residents of the locality of the Hull river, instead of referring to the residents of the hills. Classifications from which family surnames have been derived were applied to families in those days in some such way. People living on the hills were de la Hill, meaning of the hills, people living in the marshes were de la Marsh, meaning of the marsh, people living on the Hull river were de la Hulle, meaning of the Hull, etc., and the same principle applies to the Saxon "atte." In law parlance the Saxon word "heal," the Latin word "halla" and the English name Hall then meant the place where a Lord's court was held, either in palace or mansion, and "atte heal" or "de la Halle" meant of the Hall and did not mean of the Hill or of the Hull.

The Normans emigrated from the Continent to England after the conquest of William Ist, in 1086, with French words, French habits and French fashions, which soon merged into English words and English habits and English fashions.

The Anglo-Saxons referred to in school books comprised a union of Teutonic tribes known as Jutes, Angles, Saxons, Danes and Normans. The "atte" of the Saxons and the "de la" of the French were applied to surnames of families after 1086. Prior to that time there were no hereditary surnames handed on from father to son, families were referred to the same way as if in our day we should refer to James the carpenter, John the blacksmith, etc.

Beginning at that time and continuing down to the date when French language finally abdicated in favor of English language the old records exhibit the names of de and de la Hille and de Halle as separate and distinct from the names of de and de la Hulle.

The late Col. Robt. B. Hull struck the right trail in England when he examined English shipping lists of 1629 to

1635, the Exeter probate files, the Oxford College records, and the Northleigh Church records and thereby obtained the material for his able history of the life of his ancestor Rev. Joseph Hull. Mr. Herbert G. Hull also struck the right trail when he investigated the church records of Crewkerne, Somerset, and therein discovered the marriage of his ancestor George Hull and the baptism records of his children about the year 1614. Researches ought to reach back farther into the years and unearth the origin of the family. It is easy now to examine the Domesday books of 1087 and their supplements wherein the names of all land owners and tenants of thirty-five counties were recorded in some whereof all the Hulls originated. There is a lapse of about two hundred years between the Domesday Books of 1087, and the year 1300, wherein the Hulls have not yet been traced. But after 1300 the records abound with proofs of the existence of the family in England.

In 1307 the marriage records of Salop where the marriage of Hugh Hull to the daughter of Hugh Wlonkistowe is recorded, show the name spelled Hull and in Somerset records Robert Hull in 1350 and Richard Hull in 1407 spelled the name in the same way. In London records the name was spelled John Hull in 1393 and Hugo Hull in 1407. In Shropshire it was spelled De La Hulle in 1307. In Somerset it was spelled Walt De Hulle from 1323 to 1325 and Walt Hulle in 1413, John De Hulle in 1345, Adam De Hulle in 1348, Stephen de Hulle in 1362 and Thomas de Hulle in 1412. It appears from the Somerset and London records contained in Amy E. Hull's pamphlet that John de Hulle of 1345 was succeeded by John Hull in 1504, Richard Hull of 1407 was succeeded by Richard Hulle in 1504, Richard Hull of 1407 was succeeded by Richard Hulle of 1421, Stephen Hulle of 1429 succeeded Stephen de Hulle of 1362. Thomas Hulle of 1412 was succeeded by Thomas Hull A. M. of 1660. Will Hulle of 1348 and 1406 was succeeded by Will Hull of 1530. There

was an Edward Hull of 1438, 1443, 1446, 1448, Henry Hull of 1466, Andrew Hull 1450, Giles Hull 1485, Thomas Hull of Derby in 1587.

Back of the year 1300 no proof can be deduced upon this subject from coats of arms as to the identity of families because upon that subject at that date all was confusion by different Knights, persons and families having adopted the same symbol. Heraldry did not become consolidated into a science and the transmission of coats of arms from father to son was not recognized until near the close of the 13th Century and at that date its origin was lost.

The ancient Hull seals referred to do not prove that Sir Robert Hill of 1414 was a Hull. The seal of Sir Edward Hull of London is no proof that Roger Hill was a Hull. The three talbots whether heads of lions or hounds do not prove of themselves that different families who adopted them were of the same stock.

All presumptions and speculations as to all originating from the same stock arising from the three talbots are destroyed by every record discovered since the Domesday book which prove absolutely that the Hills and the Halls were separate and distinct families, and that the Hulls were separate and distinct from both.

The claim that the name is spelled differently in the same document may be explained by inadvertence or mistake of the scrivener, or in a variety of ways. For instance, a descendant of Richard Hull of New Haven spelled his name Holl in a deed now in possession of George A. Hull of Newtor, Mass., but all his ancestors and all his descendants, as well as himself, on other occasions, spelled the name Hull.

It is somewhat amusing to note that the descendants of the Hulls who settled on the Massachusetts coast about 1629, claim to be of English descent, and discard the idea of being Dutchmen. Those who are descended from the Jacob Hull who settled in Taylor County, Va., claim to be

German and discard the idea of being English. Those who settled in Sussex County, N. J., claim their progenitor was a Frenchman and discard the idea of being either Teutonic or English. Those who descended from Edward Hull, the eminent geologist, point to the record proving that he was born at Antrim, Ireland, May 21st, 1829, of Irish ancestry, and his family repudiate any other ancestry. Consequently to avoid all bewilderment it is well to begin investigation at the time when all tribes became merged into English citizens in England and surnames were universally adopted, and subsequently at the time in America when the tribes of all the world became merged into American citizenship.

The history of Rev. Joseph written by Col. Robert B. Hull, as likewise the pamphlet of Amy E. E. Hull, show by English church records that the following Hulls were respectively vicars or rectors of Northleigh, of Coylton, Devon.

John Hull from 1410 to 1438.

Henry Hull from 1583 to 1592.

William Hull from 1611 to 1627.

Joseph Hull from 1621 to 1623.

It also appears therefrom that a Thomas Hull, in 1621, resided at Crewkerne, Somerset, and also that Henry Hull had a daughter Alice who was the wife of another clergyman.

It also appears from the probate files of Exeter cited by Col. Robert B. Hull that the above named William Hull died childless in 1627 leaving a will wherein his property was devised to his brothers George, John, and Joseph Hull. The record also shows that Rev. Joseph Hull was instituted rector of Northleigh on presentation of Thomas Hull of Crewkerne, a Yeoman of Somerset. An examination of all the records create^s a safe probability that William, George, John and Joseph were brothers, that Thomas Hull was their father and that the Somersetshire and London Hulls were of the

ancestry. The records also establish the fact that about 1629 the following named Hulls emigrated from England to America, viz:

John Hull a goldsmith in 1629,
 George Hull a surveyor in 1629, ship Mary and John,
 Richard Hull carpenter and planter in 1634,
 Robert Hull a blacksmith in 1635 on the ship George,
 Joseph Hull aged 40 a clergyman in 1635 ship "Bound for New England."

Of course other Hulls came but they were mostly boys. John and Edward, Edmond and Quincy were sons of Robert, and young boys. Samuel Hull who came on the ship Elizabeth in 1635 was only 25 years old, and Andrew Hull who came in the ship Hopewell in 1635 was but 29 years old, as shown by the shipping lists. Whether or not the Richard Hull who settled in Virginia in 1640 or whether or not the Jacob Hull who settled in Maryland and Virginia, or whether or not the father of Benjamin Hull of South New Jersey about the same date were at that time heads of families does not appear. But the proof by the above quoted records is that the above named John, George, Joseph, Robert and Richard were middle aged and the last four heads of families each having children English born. They all settled on the Massachusetts coast, and from them the Hulls of New England and Middle States descended, as proven by their church and town records, as hereinafter stated. It is a mooted question whether or not Robert of Leicestershire, England, and Richard of Derby were brothers or whether or not they were brothers of John, George and Joseph of Somersetshire. Todd's history of Redding states all were brothers. Mrs. Mason in her book says all were supposed to be brothers. The History of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston states that Robert and John were brothers. The brotherly rela-

tionship is also asserted in the history of Dorchester which vouches for the existence of a letter dated at London, June 14, 1634, written to John Hull by his brother, Edward Hull wherein it appears that John Hull was a goldsmith who had a brother Richard in England of whom he wrote disparagingly and "wished to induce to come to New England." At this time the old John Hull was in Dorchester having been admitted freeman there in 1632 and he was a goldsmith. The same year of the date of the letter, 1634, Richard was also admitted as a freeman in Dorchester but the date is not given Robert was still in England with three of his sons, as he did not emigrate until 1635. John who received the letter was at its date in England because he did not emigrate until 1635. His brother Edward however had emigrated to America two years previous on the same ship with Rev. Edward Cotton arriving at Boston in Sept. 1633. Thus Edward in June 1634 wrote a letter to his brother John stating that John Hull the goldsmith had a brother Richard in England whom he disliked. John was but ten years old when he received the letter in 1634, as his own published diary proves that he was but 11 years old in 1635 when he arrived in America and began to learn his trade with John the goldsmith. The importance of the letter is its declaration that John and Richard were brothers and of course it bears upon the brotherly relationship of all. The criticism however is that Edward who had been two years in America should date the letter at London, but still the use of the words "come to New England" would indicate that the letter was written in America. The substance of all that is known concerning the above named five pioneer Hulls, is as follows:

AS TO JOHN: He appeared in Dorchester in 1630 and was there in 1635, was one of the first settlers, for a time resided in Newbury, had a share in the division of the Neck Lands and jointly with Robert, bought land on the Neponset River whereon to build a powder mill. He was admitted

as a freeman August 7th, 1632, was a deputy to the General Court in 1634, joined the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston in 1638, and was its second sergeant in 1652. He is mentioned in Boston probate records as administrator and witness of wills, and died in Dorchester July, 1666, aged 73 years, leaving a widow, Margaret, who died in 1683, but naught has been traced as to their children. He was a goldsmith, and Robert's son, John, who subsequently was the mintmaster, served his time with him in learning that trade. The accounts as to the date of his death differ, one placing it July 28, 1666, aged 73 years, and another in 1670. As to the division of the Neck Lands or Commons of Dorchester, John Hull was to have 16 acres, and in 1635 John Hull was to have 2 acres more, and also George Hull, one of the officers of the plantation was to have 2 acres, and also to have the meadow which laid in front of his doors and a passage way down to the sea. Thus it appears that at this time Robert lived in Boston and joined John in buying land on the Neponsit River, also John shared with George in the division of the Neck Lands of Dorchester, and also Robert's son, John, was soon afterwards John's apprentice, learning the trade of goldsmith. It has been stated that the above named John was captain of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, which is incorrect. It was John, son of Robert, who was the captain.

AS TO ROBERT: The above stated facts also refer to him. He was a blacksmith, settled in Boston, admitted as a freeman March, 1637, although he had a homestead and a share of the Neck Lands in Dorchester. The records of the Boston Probate Court frequently refer to him as the witness of wills and administrator of estates. He married Elizabeth Stover, had seven children, the sons being named, John, Edmund, Quincy and Edward. All of them died prior to February 12, 1666, at which time the surviving John was

given power of attorney to administer Robert's estate, he then "being the only son." Robert emigrated to America on the ship "George" with his son John from Bristol, England, arriving in Boston Harbor Nov. 7, 1635. The descendants of his sons are not traced except that Edward came from England with Rev. John Cotton, September 1633, lived at Braintree in 1650, served as Captain under Underhill in the war with the Dutch, and married Elinor Newman at Boston, Jan. 20, 1652, and died leaving a son Edward, and except also as the daughter Hannah of John married Judge Sewall and had 14 children, six of whom only lived to maturity. Robert died at Boston in 1666. His surviving son John was the one who subsequently became famous as the mintmaster.

In the Sunday Herald of Boston (issue Aug. 13, 1899) is a history of John Hull the mintmaster illustrated which is a valuable contribution to Hull literature.

An extract from his diary is published wherein he says "I was taken to help my father plant corn * * * and then by God's good hand I fell to learning by the help of my brother and to practice the trade of goldsmith."

In 1648 he became "a corporal, in 1652 a sergeant, an ensign in 1663, lieutenant in 1664 and captain in 1671 of the Ancient and monorable Artillery Company." He died Sept. 30, 1683. His wife died 1695.

His published diary likewise shows, he was a son of Robert Hull, was born 18th Dec. 1624 at Market Harborough, County Leicester in the borders of Northhamptonshire, Eng., and married Judith Quincy, daughter of Edmund Quincy, 11th of May, 1647.

This Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co. history also states "that he was the son of Robert Hull a blacksmith who was a brother of John Hull and that he was born Dec. 18, 1624 at Market Harborough, Eng., and came to America in the ship "George" with his parents, arriving Nov. 17, 1635." Vol. 1 p. 64, 193.

In the New England Historical Register, Vol. 3, Robert is referred to as a freeman March 9, 1636, and John and Edward are referred to as sons of Robert, Edward being a captain in 1653.

Again, Vol. 15, page 322-3, the will of Robert Hull, Dec. 15, 1646, refers to sons John, Edmond, Quincy, Edward and three other children, but on Feb, 12, 1666, Power of Attorney was given to John Hull to administer Robert's estate, he then being the only son, all the others having died.

AS TO REV. JOSEPH: His brother, Rev. William, died in 1627, leaving him and his brothers, John and George, some property as is shown by the Exeter probate records. He arrived with his second wife, Agnes, and children, Joanne, Joseph, Tristram, Temperance, Elizabeth and Dorothy, May 6, 1635, and subsequently 1638-9 his son Benjamin was born and baptised, who lived and left a large family in Maine. He was admitted as a freeman Sept. 2, 1635, and died at the Isle of Shoals, Nov. 19, 1665, aged 71 years. As a clergyman, his life was that of a Christian, but a stormy one. He settled in Weymouth in 1635, founded Barnstable about 1638, and was also one of the founders of and a magistrate of Hingham and representative to the General Assembly, and the town of Hull, Mass., was named after him. All the Hulls of the Quaker faith are his descendants.

AS TO RICHARD: He was a carpenter and planter, and was admitted as a freeman in Dorchester in 1634. He lived a while in Roxbury, Mass., and sold his dwelling house located there to Philip Sherman in 1637, lived in Boston in 1637, and moved to New Haven, Conn. in 1639. He died in September, 1662, leaving a will made in August, 1662, wherein he named his children, John, "Jeremy," Hannah and Mary, the wife of John "Jaxson." As to the descendants of "Jeremy" or Jeremiah of New Haven, they are not traced in the published genealogies, although Mrs. Puella Follett

Hull Mason of Washington, D. C., has discovered the names of his wife and all his children, to wit: Jeremiah, Hannah, Mary, John, Elizabeth, Joseph, Sarah, Martha. He married Hannah Baldwin at Milford, Conn., in 1658, and resided and died at New Haven, Conn.

AS TO GEORGE: He resided at Crewkerne, Somerset, England, and married there on Aug. 27, 1614, his wife's name was Thamzen Michell. Was admitted a freeman Mar. 4, 1633. He lived about 7 years in Dorchester, and then successively at Windsor and Fairfield, Conn. He died Oct. 20, 1659, and his will probated at Fairfield names his children Josias, Cornelius, Elizabeth, Mary, (or Marie) Martha and Naomi. Marie was baptised there July 27, 1618, Elizabeth, Oct. 16th, 1625, and Josias who married Eliz. Loomis was baptised Nov. 5, 1620.

Reference is hereby made to the genealogy of the descendants of Richard Hull, published in 1894, by Mrs. Puella Follett Hull Mason and another of the same descendants published by S. C. Clark in 1869, one published of descendants of Tristram Hull by Oliver P. Hull in 1859. As to the first two they do not list the ancestry or descendants of George H. Hull of Newton, Mass., who is a descendant of Richard. As to the latter it does not trace the ancestry of Tristram Hull, who was a son of Rev. Joseph. Reference is also had to descendants of Josiah Hull, son of George, who married Elizabeth Loomis, published by Prof. Loomis of Yale College and to the data of the Union soldier Clinton T. Hull of San Francisco, Cal., to the genealogies of the Wheeler and Tuttle families, to the New England Historical Register, to the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, to the life of Rev. Joseph Hull, written by Col. Robert B. Hull published by James W. Hull of Pittsfield, Mass., to the data of Herbert G. Hull of No. 3 Broad St., N. Y., to the 49 genealogic volumes of the late Miss C. Louisa Sands, now owned by the Curtis Memorial Library of Meriden, Conn., to the

Sarah Hull Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Newton, Mass., and to the records of the recently incorporated Hull Family Association located at the office of the secretary, J. Hull Browning, 199 Chambers St., N. Y. Tradition and historical research bring to the surface many honored civil and military records of the family.

The pioneer George Hull was selected in 1649 as the associate of Governor Ludlow of Connecticut and in later years George Hull was Lieut. Governor of Massachusetts. John Hull, son of the pioneer, Robert, known as the mintmaster is famous in Massachusetts history as above stated. Edward, another of Robert's sons, was an army captain in the war with the Dutch. Lieut. Jedediah Hull, a descendant of the pioneer George, stood beside Gen. Montgomery, when he was killed at Quebec, participated in military duty at Crown Point. Tristram Hull, a son of the pioneer, Rev. Joseph Hull, a shipmaster, espoused the cause of the Quakers, and on the deck of his ship Hopewell received their banished advocate, Nicholas Upsall, and defiantly protected him from the wrath of his persecutors. Benjamin, another son of the Rev. Joseph Hull was captain of a troop of horse in Maine during the Colonial wars. Eight Hulls were officers of the Continental army, viz: David Hull of Connecticut, Edwin Hull of Virginia, Elias R. Hull of Rhode Island, Isaac Hull of New Jersey, Joseph Hull of Connecticut, Jehiel Hull of Connecticut, William Hull of Connecticut, and William Hull of Massachusetts. Captain, Major and Lieut. Colonel William Hull participated in the Revolutionary war battles and skirmishes at Chatterton Hill, near the White Plains, at Trenton, Princeton, at Saratoga Sept. 19, 1777, at Saratoga October 7, 1777, Monmouth, Stony Point, Morrisana, on St Clair's retreat from Ticonderoga, on Schuyler's retreat from Fort Edward, on the old French lines at Ticonderoga, and he served from the beginning to the end of the Revolutionary War. He was promoted twice at the request of

Gen. Washington, and was selected to lead desperate ventures. It was the detachment of 300 volunteers led by him which drove the British artillery on the west into the woods, captured with 20 prisoners the old log house so prominently mentioned in accounts of one of the Saratoga battles. Over 100 of his men were killed and wounded there, close by places where tablets are erected commemorative of other soldiers. He led the assault at Morrisana, was field officer at Trenton, commanded a regiment at Monmouth, led a division of the bayonet charge at Stony Point, commanded the advance lines of the army the winter of Valley Forge, also the rear guard in all the continuous skirmishes of Schuyler's retreat in one of which he lost forty soldiers and two officers killed and wounded. He was commended publicly by Gens. Schuyler, Heath, McDougall, Wayne and Brooks, was in charge of the corps which took possession of N. Y. City when the British evacuated, and likewise commanded Washington's escort when he bade his officers farewell at Fraunces Tavern and received the last military salute of the Revolutionary war at Paulus Hook. He was with the detachment sent to reinforce Lafayette who was nearly surrounded by the British near Philadelphia. In 1825 Lafayette left the ceremonies of his reception at Boston and visited him on his farm at Newton, Mass. He was the bosom friend of Nathan Hale and a charter member of the Society of the Cincinnati. His son Capt. Abram Fuller Hull was killed by a British bayonet thrust through his breast while leading his company in the battle of Lundy's Lane. The naval successes of Commodore Isaac Hull in 1812, and Commodore Andrew Hull Foote in the Civil War, of Hull blood on the maternal side, are among the proud records of the Nation. General Joseph Wheeler renowned both in the Civil war and the Spanish war is of the Hull blood on the maternal side. Josiah Hull of Athens, Pa., had three sons all of whom served in the Union Army. Lieut. of Artillery Joseph Hull was one of the

defenders of Fort Washington in 1776 and leader of the band organized on flat bottomed wood boats which captured a British armed schooner on Long Island Sound.

Then there is Gen. Andrew Hull, and the wife of Governor Foote and other prominent ones too numerous to list here. The records seem to be creditable not only on military lines but in civil affairs, as Deputies to the General Courts, magistrates, Selectmen, founders of towns and organizers of government. During the Revolutionary War fifty-seven enlisted from the sparsely settled State of Connecticut alone, from Massachusetts about the same proportion, and eight of them were officers of the Continental Army. In intervals of peace their names frequently appear as filling representative positions in affairs of church and state. Old tombstones, old town, church, probate and land records, constantly produce bright additions to the family records. An expert genealogist from the great wealth of collated and uncollated and unmarshalled facts could produce a genealogic history of the family of intense interest. Such a history may not come in your day or my day, but it will come some day.

Fort Edward, N. Y.,
December 25, 1904.

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